



THE PRESTON STREET COLORED MISSION, LOUISVILLE, KY.

This building was formerly a lottery office, but is now used as an industrial mission, which was founded February, 1898. Two hundred and fifty pupils from seventeen different streets attend the services. Frequently white teachers are compelled to stand, because every seat is occupied by a colored child, and it is impossible to place any more chairs in the building.

ing of helplessness which comes over a teacher when he faces a class of this kind cannot be understood by one who has not had the experience.

Abandoned the International Lessons

After long conference and earnest prayer for guidance, we decided to abandon the regular International Lessons and to prepare simpler material, the idea being to teach them that God had made them and all things that they used in their daily life. In seeking a point of contact with these children, the writer of this article gained his first light from a lump of coal. It was the dead of winter, and each child enjoyed the warmth which came from a lump of coal. In a few moments after this thought was evolved, other practical illustrations followed: a bottle of water, the small branch of a tree, pictures of horses and birds, — samples of all were gathered in a small box and taken to the class. By an accident, the bottle of water was dropped and broken, and each child desired to help gather up the fragments. The point of contact was made and there were eyes eager to see the contents of the box. Next Sabbath these little children, who at first were not the least bit interested, told

vividly the story of the preceding Sunday — how God, in making the world, had provided many things which they used daily.

The Children bringing Their Parents

Preaching services were held on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. Very few of the grown people attended, but the children of the Sabbath-school came with remarkable regularity. The number attending these services has slowly but steadily increased, the children bringing their parents, the average attendance being one quarter of the attendance in the Sabbath-school.

Once enrolled on our books, we endeavored to teach that pupil regularity. On Monday morning of each week a list of all the absentees from the Sunday-school was made, arranged by streets, and some one visited that pupil before the next Sabbath. This led us into all kinds of philanthropic work, for poverty, ignorance, and sickness abounded.

When a pupil was found sick, the Mission faculty was always able to secure the services of a physician. All the medical work has been done by physicians of high standing. Professors from